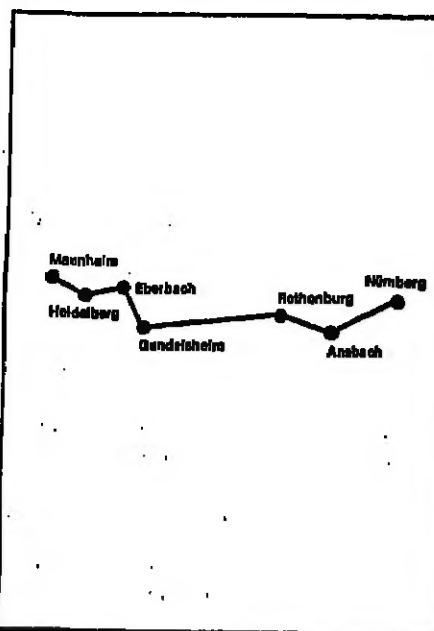
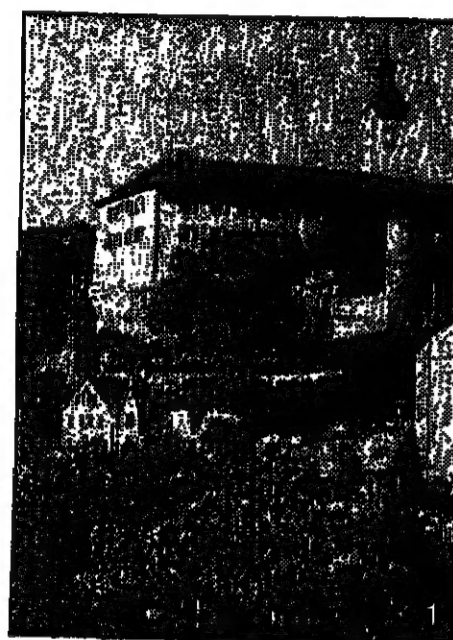


Routes to tour in Germany



The Castle Route

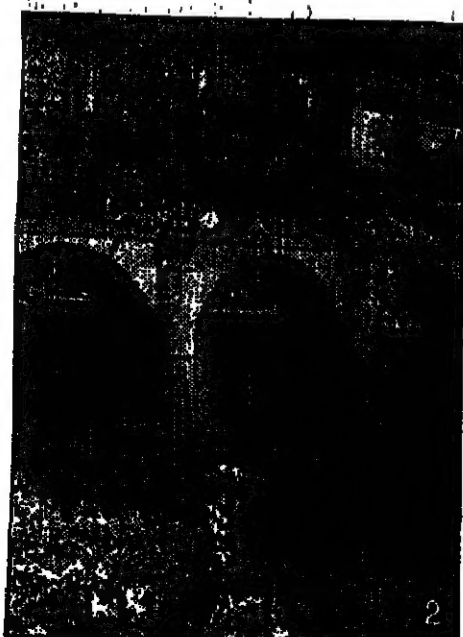


German roads will get you there. But why miss the sights by heading straight down the autobahn at 80? Holiday routes have been arranged not only to ensure unforgettable memories but also to make up an idea for a holiday in itself. How about a tour of German castles?

The Castle Route is 200 miles long. It runs from Mannheim, an industrial city on the Rhine with an impressive Baroque castle of its own, to Nuremberg, the capital of Bavarian Franconia. The tour should take you three days or so. We recommend taking a look at 27 castles en route and seeing for yourself what Germany must have looked like in the Middle Ages. The mediaeval town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber is intact and unspoilt. Heidelberg is still the city of the Student Prince. In Nuremberg you really must not miss the Albrecht Dürer House.

Come and see for yourself the German Middle Ages. The Castle Route will be your guide.

- 1 Gündelsheim/Neckar
- 2 Heidelberg
- 3 Nuremberg
- 4 Rothenburg/Tauber



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The German Tribune

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Confidence vote puts Kohl in and Schmidt out

Helmut Kohl has replaced Helmut Schmidt as Bonn Chancellor by a vote of seven in a Bundestag vote of confidence.

It is only the second time this constitutional provision has been used, and the first time it has succeeded in forcing a change of government.

The vote marked the end of an era, ended 13 years during which the Social and Free Democrats shared power in Bonn, and the beginning of a new chapter.

The Bundestag debate had its impressive and humanly moving mo-

The Change in Bonn

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as for instance in the exchanges between FDP and SPD floor leaders Rainer Barzel and Helmut Schmidt.

It locked the drama of Christian Schmidt Rainer Barzel's vote of no confidence against Willy Brandt on 27 April 1972.

Things have changed. Despite the worldwide tension the fact remained that Chancellor Schmidt had declared a coalition over and admitted he no longer had a majority.

He will continue to have been the beneficiary of bids by Herr Schmidt for Social Democrats to make out

cuts decided on so far testify to courage to take unpopular moves, and in the blend they represent they are a step in the right direction. The initial test, the run-up to the 6 March 1983 general election Rainer Barzel and Helmut Schmidt assured the Bundestag would be held, is an alarmingly short run. Can Herr Kohl carry conviction with initial successes in such a short period? Can he succeed in dispelling widespread irritation in the

the Free Democrats to have been solely to blame for the break-up of the SPD-FDP coalition.

It is also a fact that Herr Schmidt's government had for months been incapable of action, with confusion reigning in Bonn and the SPD undermining the authority of an SPD Chancellor even more than the FDP was doing.

This could not continue indefinitely. Yet it was hard to part company with Chancellor Schmidt, a man of political stature and personal resolution. Both were apparent in his final speech to the Bundestag as Chancellor, a speech in which he trenchantly attacked both the Christian and Free Democrats.

In his political testament he had his say on German-American friendship, on Nato and above all on missile modernisation, the danger of unilateral disarmament and the threat to freedom and democracy from the Greens.

Many fellow-Social Democrats will have been less than enthusiastic about what he had to say, but Helmut Schmidt remained true to himself to the last. It will be hard for Herr Kohl to follow in his footsteps, but Helmut Kohl deserves to be given the benefit of the doubt for his initial 100 days.

He, like Herr Schmidt, must be measured in terms of the policy he pursues in practice rather than of the doubts that are expressed in him. All that can be said for sure is that he will have a hard time of it. The country is in the throes of its most serious crisis ever and the legacy left behind by the old coalition is no fun. Matters cannot be mended overnight, especially as the new coalition, although it may be determined to make economies, cannot afford to pursue ruthless cuts. The

cuts decided on so far testify to courage to take unpopular moves, and in the blend they represent they are a step in the right direction. The initial test, the run-up to the 6 March 1983 general election Rainer Barzel and Helmut Schmidt assured the Bundestag would be held, is an alarmingly short run. Can Herr Kohl carry conviction with initial successes in such a short period? Can he succeed in dispelling widespread irritation in the



Helmut Kohl is sworn in as Chancellor by the president of the Bundestag, Richard Stücklen. (Photo: J. H. Derschinger)

Strong ties with the West, but no Cold War approach

To imply that the friends of Cold War are knocking at the door of the Bonn Cabinet is to foster panic for obvious political reasons.

It is also a dishonest attempt to say that only one party has the ability to keep the peace.

Yet the new Bonn government's foreign policy is still only apparent in broad outline. The coalition agreement contained no more than a few catchphrases.

They repeat, for the most part, the ideas that formed the basis of foreign policy in the past, such as the call for genuine détente and a balance of power to keep the peace.

It must not, of course, be overlooked that the meaning of such concepts is controversial. The call for genuine détente reminded many left-wing Social Democrats of President Reagan's agitation.

It entails appropriate counter-concessions by the Soviet Union. But what is appropriate and what is reasonable?

If words are not to be trusted, what then? People and interests? In foreign affairs Chancellor Kohl is a dark horse,

apart from repeated declarations that what he wants is the same as Herr Schmidt and Herr Genscher sought to achieve, but slightly different.

It may be safely assumed that as a self-proclaimed Adenauer man he will attach greater importance to Bonn's ties with the West.

This is an intention that members of the outgoing government unfairly dismissed as submission to or servility toward Mr Reagan.

Bonn's ties with the West have nothing to do with Kohl or Schmidt, or Reagan for that matter. They are in the national interest, a point on which there was no doubt under Herr Schmidt either.

But Chancellor Kohl will initially have priorities other than foreign policy. If he is to ensure political survival he must concentrate on the economy.

Foreign affairs will continue to be handled by an experienced man. Herr Genscher, the FDP leader, has been Foreign Minister since 1974.

Some may take a dim view of describing Herr Genscher as a guarantee of consistency, but it is a claim that must be taken seriously.

In respect of foreign policy, he helped to frame and carry out the foreign policy of the Schmidt government, although Social Democrats Herbert Wehner, Willy Brandt and

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German ambassador to Bonn, Arthur F. Burns, greets an old friend, Helmut Schmidt during a diplomatic corps reception in Bonn. The next day Schmidt became a former Chancellor. (Photo: dpa)

BUSINESS

Era of the disappearing entrepreneur

■ BONN

Foreign policy and the new government: changes will be ones of emphasis

Günter Diehl, chief government spokesman in Bonn under CDU Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger from 1966 to 1969, and former German ambassador to India and Japan, wrote this article for *Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt*.

Foreign friends in particular are wondering whether the new Bonn government will make changes in foreign and security policy.

There will be no fundamental changes because national interests are defined in virtually identical terms by all democratic parties.

This has been clear for years in all major Bundestag debates. So in all probability there will be merely a few changes in emphasis.

"In foreign policy there is not much to choose between us and the government," a leading Christian Democrat told the writer in confidence some time ago.

This remained the case until very recently. But attention was distracted from this because the SPD-FDP government had to make so many allowances for minority views.

As a result, foreign policy decisions were hampered.

It may be due to this vagueness, this German fog, that a degree of uncertainty has descended on German intentions. People both at home and abroad have been wondering just where Bonn stands.

One explanation has been put forward by a Social Democrat who served alongside the writer in the days of the 1966-69 Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats.

Uncertainty in ties with the Soviet Union on the one hand and with Germany's allies on the other he says is because the Social and Free Democrats coalition were not strong enough to continue the *Deutschlandpolitik* and *Ostpolitik* embarked on with such a wide-ranging domestic consensus by the Grand Coalition.

Policy on Germany and toward the East bloc grew less balanced, was too often the subject of party-political disputes and eventually emerged as a self-sustaining purpose for left-wingers.

It was, they innocently said, a policy to which there was no alternative, which is hardly the best one can say of a foreign policy concept.

Even honourable attempts simply to continue with the policy at times lost sight of the original objectives and occasionally testified to a lack of ability to make straightforward distinctions.

One example is the tendency to equate the Soviet Union and the United States.

If circumstances permit, the Soviet Union could well be left to its own devices for a while without constantly being badgered by verbal aggression.

Moscow has more problems than we, when all is said and done. The post-Brezhnev Soviet leadership must first come to terms with itself.

The Kremlin is, in any case, well aware that the Federal Republic of Germany is always willing to talk, and no one has any intention of going back on the treaties already signed.

Are we in favour of economic coopera-

tion with the East? Yes, but without favoured status and without penalties, on a strictly commercial basis.

Bids to stabilise economic systems in the Communist-ruled countries, systems doomed to inefficiency, are too much for us and could spell danger to this country.

The opportunity of widening the basis on which German politics rests is one that must be taken, given that democratic parties are bound to agree in their assessment of national priorities.

Peace, freedom and unity must be the goals, equal in importance and inseparable other than to the country's detriment.

They are the context in which the sacrifices made in Bonn's treaties with the Eastern bloc make sense.

If the link is severed there will be neither political stability nor peacekeeping based on the observation of human rights.

The malaise will disappear once we have visibly, tangibly reverted to moral quality in our relations with the Communist-ruled states, including for the time being the GDR.

This is how we in the Federal Republic can be sure of retaining the esteem and affection of our fellow-countrymen in the other part of Germany.

Boosting the prestige of the GDR regime is none of our business. It is up to the powers that be in East Berlin to see to that.

It is none too difficult to visualise their position, so invective is inappropriate.

We are willing and able to work with them on one issue or another, but there can be no question of intimacy or companionship. The government in East Berlin wields power by the grace of others and lacks democratic legitimacy.

That is why the Soviet Union cannot, any more than our allies can, be dismissed from its solemn undertakings toward Germany as a whole.

Boosting prestige of the GDR is no business of the Federal Republic

Saying and showing that German foreign policy is geared to basic values and, although it is strictly down-to-earth, is not prepared to disregard dignity and self-respect could be the key to consolidating our relationship of trust with the United States.

No-one can be surprised that we are having trouble with the United States and the Americans are having trouble with us.

We cannot be indifferent to ourselves, but problems are relativised the moment one realises they cannot destroy a friendship based on common interests and convictions.

A country of Germany's size and in Germany's geographical location is ill advised to engage as a sporting activity in slating one US President after another in the most primitive manner year after year.

Germans nowadays seem intent on gunning for America and making scathing comments about US leaders.



Every Tom, Dick and Harry in politics and the media seems called on to criticise the United States and idolise the Soviet Union.

A divided country such as our own will always be in political jeopardy, easily given to neurotic traits, and that is why others make allowances for us.

We are well aware of the fact, but to ensure our very survival we must see to it that political common sense and good manners retain the upper hand over aberrations.

Our allies have, thank heavens, lent us every assistance for 30 years because they either realise or have a good idea what it must mean to feel that our fellow-countrymen in the other part of Germany are still refused the right of self-determination, let alone other basic rights, despite liberation from Nazi tyranny.

Provided we ourselves remain committed to our goals our allies will pay due regard to our rights.

Doubters may like to recall that France returned the Saar to Germany, its last prize of a precarious victory, because it preferred not to pervert the right to self-determination.

So we must re-establish mutual trust and ensure that we are not caught again between the fronts, which is something Europe cannot bear.

Why not? Because we are not small enough not to matter to our neighbours and not large enough to be able to strike a balance between the forces around us.

This is the point at which Germany's European policy is profoundly, lastingly justified. Far from being an obstacle, it is the prerequisite for the exercise of the right to self-determination in all Germany.

Here too there is a far-reaching groundwork laid by all democratic forces in the Federal Republic.

A bid to bring about political unity by simple but effective means and without undue red tape, as undertaken by the ASEAN countries, for instance, could be undertaken on a wide front.

Harmonisation of German and French views in a constant dialogue will have an important part to play.

How Europe is to be defended is another issue we must come to terms with, and we would be well advised to start wondering, even though answers will be not easy to find.

It would be good if in taking stock we were all jointly (if possible) to arrive at the conclusion that we are too fixated on East-West ties, arms and disarmament.

We, the free and democratically ruled countries, who not for nothing are also highly industrialised and technologically advanced, exercise a greater power of attraction than the Soviet Union.

Our way of life is felt to be exemplary to such an extent that we feel bound to warn others not to repeat our mistakes.

This is the point at which to repeat, for clarity's sake, that the Federal Republic regards the non-alignment of

many Third World countries as a constructive policy.

The only exception is the doctrine of non-alignment which is a fig-leaf to cover up pro-Communist policies.

The emerging countries that in their own way after the collapse of colonialism are our partners and friends because we have no neo-colonialist objectives and do not pursue power politics.

We thus call neither their sovereignty nor their national independence in question.

In foreign trade policy we ought to be gravitating toward new centres of political stability and economic development, such as Asia and the Pacific.

They are where our funds should be invested. If invested rightly, they will help us to handle our own economy better. In doing so he has frequently had to use his elbows, though he used his brains and the abilities of his assistants.

Charity and the missionary approach are inappropriate in ties between states. Their place needs taking by cooperation from which both partners know they will stand to benefit.

Relations are stabilised when it is apparent that we are particularly helpful to lend a hand in, say, boosting investment in the youngest member of parliament who means nothing to the world of commodities or sales market of his own.

Charity and the missionary approach are not appropriate

The concept of donor and recipient countries has done more political damage than the material assistance done good.

A further formula, the idea of New South ties, is equally unsuitable because it implies a fresh conflict. There is no need to assume this must be the case.

We will continue to be asked to supply arms, and by the terms of our regulations we could do so when it is in our interest.

Even in such a sensitive area as consensus is possible. It must be used that refusal to cooperate in the sector is tantamount to moral condemnation of the nation of the country that made the final request.

It implies that we Germans do trust it to make responsible use of its means to keep the peace and to maintain political stability.

We shouldn't pass such judgments and we would be well advised to widen context to be less strict in judgments on others.

In several cases where German interests are not at stake it would be better to keep our views to ourselves. Periodic intervention by government.

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■ BONN

Kohl shows his mettle in the run up to power

His final spurt towards the chancellery showed once more that Helmut Kohl has the qualities it needs to overcome political hurdles.

While his friends are not quite sure whether or not to admire these qualities, his enemies don't know whether it is to mock them.

His attributes are staying power, nerves, a whiff of naiveté and the ability to roll with the punches.

Since he entered politics, he has promptly been reinvested in Germany to prove to others that he is better help us to handle our own economy.

He had to use his elbows, though he used his brains and the abilities of his assistants.

His assistants agree with him inasmuch as they describe him as "a government personality," a man who must hold a government post to assert his authority and make the best of his talents.

Looking back, his road from Mainz to the Chancellery in Bonn must appear to him like a march through a dark valley in the course of which many of his former companions left him and former friends began to doubt him as past glory dimmed.

Kohl was far less successful on a national plane than he had been in state politics.

This might have to do with the fact that the tasks assigned to him by the CDU leadership were rather unrewarding. Thus, for instance, he was made chairman of a commission that was to have developed the "Berlin Programme".

Though Kohl could still come to terms with the fact that his ideas on *Deutschlandpolitik* were too progressive for the conservative party leadership, it took him a long time to recover from the defeat on the labour participation issue.

Having misjudged the majorities at the 1971 party congress in Düsseldorf, he dropped his own pro-labour model and voted for Alfred Dregger's pro-management approach that was later passed. But the majority was so slim that it became obvious that Kohl's mo-

del would have been adopted had he stuck to his guns. The premiership of Rhineland-Palatinate, which he assumed in 1969, was tailor-made for him. He soon dominated the scene at the Mainz palace that houses the state government like a duke in his principality. Together with his government team, he took the small, backward state of forests, gardens and vineyards into the 20th century.

He attracted industry (and despite the influx of traditionally Social Democratic blue collar workers he managed to corner the absolute majority for the CDU); he introduced municipal reforms and rezoned; together with Helner Geisler, he also reformed the social affairs and public health system, brought the trade unions and management to the negotiating table and paralysed the opposition. In fact, his SPD rival, Alfred Dröschner, was one of his secret admirers.

It was also Kohl who set aside times when people could come and put their problems before him — a move that proved extremely popular.

Even in those days, his family (he has two sons) saw little of him, and they were lucky if they had a weekend together.

Kohl's see-sawing disappointed not only the reform wing of his party but also the conservative wing, who saw him as an opportunist who bends with the wind.

One of his major mistakes was standing against Rainer Barzel for the party chairmanship. Barzel received almost three times as many votes as Kohl and became the Chancellorship nominee but was defeated a short while later in the autumn 1972 elections.

By the time Barzel resigned the chairmanship, Kohl's position was firm enough to win him the post.

It was at that time that Kohl established ties with two other politicians who were to have a major impact on his career. One of them was Hans-Dietrich Genscher with whom he talked about a CDU/CSU-FDP coalition the night following the 1969 national elections — at the same time that Walter Scheel and Willy Brandt had already agreed on an SPD-FDP coalition.

At the time, Kohl thought Genscher

meant that the FDP would muster enough votes to elect Kurt Georg Kiesinger as Chancellor.

The other was Franz Josef Strauss, with whom he had a head-on clash and who was to prove fateful. When Kohl was narrowly defeated in the 1976 national elections, Strauss proceeded to break away from the CDU/CSU alliance (the Bad Kreuth decision). The rift was subsequently mended.

Among Kohl's positive traits is that he bears no lasting grudges against his rivals, opponents or partners. He also never hits below the belt.

During his six years in Bonn, he has frequently given the impression of an amateur among pros. But he has always had a sound nose for what makes the citizen tick. Helmut Kohl is not exactly a brilliant orator. But he can lay claim to being a Chancellor who understands the man-in-the-street.

Klaus Dreher (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 30 September 1982)

Four-Power Berlin Agreements and progress in intra-German ties.

None can be in favour of an uncontrolled arms race or of subordinating Germany's economic interests to set ideological ideas in Washington as demanded in connection with the Soviet gas pipeline contract.

This does not mean running after the Spirit of Werbellinsee (where Helmut Schmidt conferred with the East German leader, Herr Honecker, last December), which is largely a phantom. It does not mean backing ideas of a more independent role for Europe should the arms-control talks threaten to break down.

Such bids would not only weaken the Western alliance but also undermine Bonn's position by encouraging Soviet hopes of driving a wedge between America and Europe after all.

The temptation must be all the greater for the Soviet Union now it can no longer count on a rapprochement between the superpowers in the second half of President Reagan's term.

This it can hardly do, given the Kremlin's failure to solve its own leadership problems and Mr Reagan's ideological inflexibility. When policy stagnates between the

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Helmut Kohl... the youngest Chancellor in his moment of triumph.

(Photo: Sven Simon)

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THE ECONOMY

Immediate steps needed to stabilise banking system

Bonn economic policy makers have taken the easy way out by blaming unemployment on stagnating growth, structural changes in the world economy and lack of demand.

These explanations are as superficial as attempts to blame it all on anti-inflationary policy. The fact is that Germany's economy would have been strong enough to cope with the world-wide crisis if Bonn had heeded the warnings in time.

Economic policy everywhere until right into the 1960s was directed at high growth through cheap money. And this is exactly what was needed in the first post-war decade.

The overall growth of net earnings permitted an ever more generous wage policy which climaxed in a wage explosion in 1969, together with a fine-mesh social security net.

Public sector spending grew at a dizzying rate and with it, of course, the public debt.

But then, in the late 1960s, the world began to change. The excesses of previous years, claimed their toll and growth was halted.

But the policy makers ignored this and the much admired Federal Republic of Germany, along with other countries, stumbled into the turbulent 1970s.

The monetary confusion that was to follow was foreshadowed in an early stage. To prevent the Deutschmark from skyrocketing beyond its actual value, the Bundesbank had to buy billions of dollars and sell Deutschmarks. This boosted the liquidity of banks and, along with it, the inflation rates.

The consequences of the transition to floating exchange rates coincided with the quadrupling of oil prices.

The reaction was slow in coming and now, reduced by the temporary weakness of Opec (which has purely economic reasons), we are once more neglecting the task of finding alternative sources of energy.

We also pay too little attention to the overburdening of the international financing system through the excessive indebtedness of many countries.

What is needed now is more stringent bank controls, a legally stipulated consolidation of the balances of banking concerns and safeguards in time against a possible collapse of banks. We must not allow ourselves to leave a dangerous development unchecked but must take preventive action.

Since wage policy did not immediately after the oil shock take into account that buying power would be transferred to the Opec countries, a recession occurred in 1974 and 1975, together with spiralling inflation rates.

Industry, fighting the deterioration of the cost-price ratio, became vulnerable. As earnings dwindled, investments also declined. Capital investments in this country rose by only 18 per cent in the 1970s, compared with 49 per cent in Japan.

The growing volume of state borrowing put a strain on capital markets and hiked interest rates.

Those who today maintain that our growing exports prove our competitiveness tend to overlook the fact that the influx of foreign orders rose only as

long as the Deutschmark was cheap for foreign buyers.

But things have changed now, and foreign orders are declining. And exports will follow suit with a slight time lag.

There can be no overlooking the fact that Germany is lagging behind technologically, which means that it must step up research and development.

Following intensive and concerted discussions, it should be able to change the social security system.

Legislators have gone overboard in providing social benefits that can now no longer be paid for.

But since no coalition wants to face an election campaign under the cloud of having dismantled the social security system, it is unlikely that any reforms will be made instantly.

This also applies to the reorientation of fiscal policy as a whole. The supplementary budget for 1982 and the 1983 federal budget must be passed before the year is over. But it is unthinkable that this will be done in one fell swoop.

New rehabilitation measures will be modest and more borrowing inevitable. What is possible, however, is to shift the emphasis from consumption to investment spending. This would have to be followed in 1983 by a combination of higher direct and lower indirect taxes in the form of increased VAT.

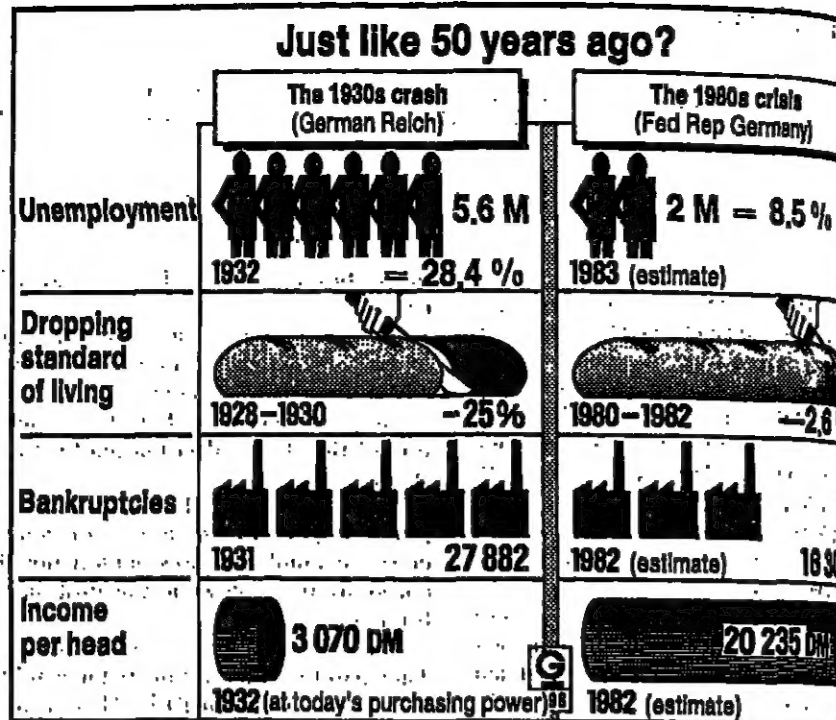
Since 1983 will predictably bring with it serious setbacks in the international economy, any new economic policy will have to make the necessary provisions to cope with such risks.

And any long-term programme must also aim at creating new jobs. Such a programme should include deregulation, stemming state bureaucracy, and changing the public sector spending policy with the new emphasis being on investment. We also need a more equitable system of social benefits, more confidence in the economy and continued restructuring of our industrial production with a view to preserving jobs.

In short, the entire fiscal system needs reorganisation. Germany has paid dearly in the past 18 months to learn its lesson.

Walter Trautmann

(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 24 September 1982)



On the brink of disaster as new patterns emerge

Eleven million are out of work in EEC countries, including two million in Germany. Twenty five million are out of work in OECD countries.

This and other indicators show that the world economy is on the verge of a major crisis. Since the spring, the slump has worsened in almost every country, including Germany.

The Kiel Institute for the World Economy is pessimistic: it forecasts that demand and production in Western Europe and Japan will decline further.

And even in the United States there is no sign that the continued slump will now be followed by a marked improvement.

Other forecasts are equally pessimistic. They say the further decline in the world economy will also cut back foreign orders in Germany.

According to the Bundesbank, the trend will soon result in a fall in exports. Exports will no longer act as the locomotive of the economy.

What is happening now is that new economic patterns are becoming visible, reflecting the worldwide crisis and the growing current account problems of the Third World and the East Bloc countries, which have had to cut down on their imports.

This has made the domestic market all the more important. Home demand must be stimulated.

The next Bonn government should

concentrate on a double strategy: reactivating the principles of a economy, investment potentials must be thoroughly strengthened at the consumption while not losing sight of the importance of consolidating and social security finances. This would serve to provide more money investment.

The most dangerous weakness in the world to invest.

In this country, investment has been declining for years.

This has brought Germany on a downward trend. By 1976, investment was down to seven per cent. Yet everybody knows that low investment is the main reason for the economy's problems — low growth and high unemployment.

At the same time, there is a danger that rising unemployment will be taken as an excuse for protectionist measures and higher subsidies.

Fortunately, there are some signs of improvement.

In its latest monthly report, the Bundesbank speaks of a "stabilising" on the stock exchange, which pinning its hopes on a new government in Bonn.

Another major positive aspect is development of the balance of payments and the inflation rate, which obviously passed its peak.

Major framework conditions for industry have improved, particularly stabilisation of production costs.

Fiscal policy makers are also realising that social security payments must be cut back if investment is to be boosted.

Allying public sector finances with the past decades should be a footing. Many of the lavish benefits of the past decades should be reduced. This does not mean that this is the way of implementing a "market economy manifesto." But change must be made if things are to improve.

There are plenty of possible ways means of defusing the crisis and finding about a cure. But all steps in the direction should start at home.

Bonn has the double chance of a beginning and of a relatively still economy. It would therefore be more disappointing if this chance were not used.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 26 September 1982)

BUSINESS

Era of the disappearing entrepreneur

The small businessman is becoming scarce in Germany. People are less likely to take the risks involved than in the past.

A few figures: In 1960, there were 2,700 bankruptcies. In 1980, there were more than 9,000. In the first six months of this year 7,500 businesses had to throw in the towel.

The most important reason for the dwindling number of entrepreneurs, however, is the change in attitude towards work and leisure time. The employed working population is becoming more like civil servants.

In deciding whether to go into business or not, they have to weigh factors that Professor Norbert Szyperski of Cologne University's Seminar on Planning puts this way: On the one hand there is freedom of decision and action, the implementation of personal ideas and independence — the price of which is a high degree of risk and hard work. Many consider this price too high.

On the other hand, there is a good income, much leisure time and an extensive social security net. Who would exchange this for all the sweat and tears of running a business? Clearly, only those with a strong drive for independence.

Naturally, this reluctance to go into business does not apply to all sectors in equal measure. But the golden years of the Grundig and Krupp, Flicks and Siemens are over.

According to an Allensbach opinion poll, 17 per cent of the employed population was interested in taking the plunge into business in 1962. By 1976, this had fallen to seven per cent.

There was a slight rise in the year of 1980, experts do not regard as a turning point.

Businessmen and economists and the business community regard the general trend as a major economic and social crisis.

Walter Burkart, Economic Affairs Secretary in Berlin and himself an entrepreneur, said that there were too few entrepreneurs for the needs of the economy-governed social state.

The fact that neighbouring countries are better off in this respect is not a consolation.

For example: The proportion of employed to the total working population dropped from 22 per cent in 1970 to 17 per cent in 1980 in France and 16.4 to 10.4 per cent in Holland. In America, it dropped from 6.8 per cent during the same period.

There are many reasons. Many who are out of business were victims of the changes in economic structure and the transition process in industry and commerce.

For example, the corner grocer could compete with the supermarket.

Complete economic conditions don't favour small business: energy and materials are scarce and expensive.

Among the highest in the country (before income and corporation taxes) dropped from 4.6 per cent in 1970 to 3.3 per cent in 1981.

Business decisions are hampered by a flood of laws and regulations.

Herbert Giersch, president of the Institute for the World Economy, said once it: "Many of the fore-

The first year when again more companies were entered into the Companies Register than were deleted was 1977. Last year, the number of new companies (52,000) declined again, but it still exceeded the number of those going out of business by 30,000.

The sector that offers some hope is the service industry. According to the Federal Statistical Office, there was a rise of 15 per cent to 750,000 independent businesses over the past 20 years, making this the strongest bastion of the self-employed.

The danger to the economy in the long run lies in the fact that virtually none of the newly established businesses are innovative. New technologies or pioneering inventions as entrepreneurial springboards are rarities.

The least inclination to go into business can be found among those groups that could have provided decisive impulses for technical innovation, i.e. engineers, concludes the Cologne University Seminar on Planning.

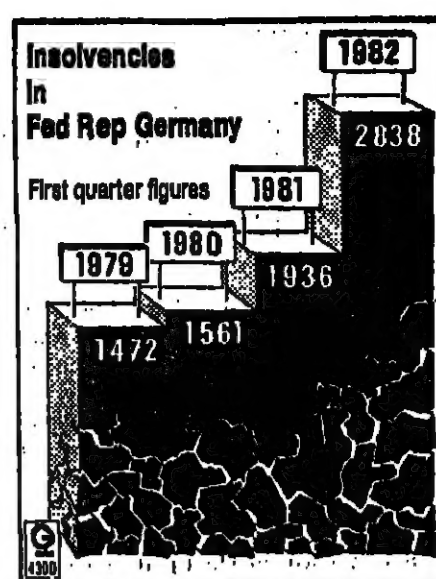
Last year, Bonn Research Minister Andreas von Bülow said: "We must provide incentives for technology-oriented entrepreneurs because it is here that our chances lie — especially in times of rising unemployment — to provide new jobs and impulses for a broad application of new technologies."

His Ministry is working on attempts to revive this type of entrepreneurial spirit, and DM8m has been set aside for this purpose in the Ministry's 1983 budget.

At the latest by the beginning of next year the Ministry intends to present a plan that will provide incentives in the form of financial assistance — through tax relief, favourable credit terms or non-repayable subsidies.

Most new entrepreneurs regard financing as their biggest obstacle.

According to the Bonn Institute for Research into Small and Medium Sized



Businesses, 50 per cent of new entrepreneurs need starting capital of more than DM60,000, 20 per cent need more than DM150,000 and only 17 per cent can manage on less than DM30,000.

The many public sector credit facilities aimed at helping a business have one major disadvantage: too few people know about them.

The same applies to the counselling services provided by the various chambers of commerce and similar organisations.

The fact that one in two new entrepreneurs has to give up in the first five years shows that there is a need for much more sound information.

More thorough and expert preparation could have saved quite a few of these new businesses.

In view of unemployment problems, it must also be remembered that a sound policy aimed at promoting small and medium sized businesses is also a sound employment policy. After all, this type of business employs more than two-thirds of the total work force.

Helke Braun

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 24 September 1982)

The bank that gives its money away

DM3,000. This naturally means that any group that needs money to make a major investment like buying a farm would have to be fairly large.

GLS now backs 88 Waldorf schools, 56 agricultural projects, 56 teaching and therapeutic institutions, Waldorf kindergartens, youth projects, training facilities and old people's homes: some 400 projects all told.

The bank's guidelines don't come from a banking manual but from the teaching of Rudolf Steiner who said: "The good of a community of people working together is the greater the less the individual lays claim to the proceeds of his work, i.e. the more of these proceeds he turns over to his fellow man and the more he satisfies his own needs from the work of others rather than his own."

So the bank promotes primarily projects in which many people live and work together, putting their incomes into one pot from which everybody takes as much as he believes he needs.

Private ownership of means of production has been eliminated. Thus, for instance, the Sophienlust farm belongs to all of the 80 people who live and work on it.

The bank requires no collateral. Potential borrowers are simply interviewed to find out what sort of people they are; but large sums are usually lent only to borrower-communities.

The rule here is that every member of the community can borrow up to

Naturally, the money the GLS uses must come from somewhere — even if the bank is not interested in making a profit.

The 3,500 depositors can choose whether they want to draw regular interest on their money or X per cent less than regular or no interest at all.

They must be pretty convinced anthroposophists to go along with such an arrangement; 700 of the depositors have opted for the "no interest" arrangement.

Burkart: "Most of those who go to Kalkar or Brokdorf to demonstrate against the nuclear power stations there have savings or checking accounts in regular banks. And while they demonstrate, their banks use their money to finance these projects."

This is quite an extreme example; but not convincing enough to persuade one to take one's money from a regular bank and put it in a GLS account. The balance sheet of this bank shows that it has itself invested more than DM12m with other banks and what those banks finance with that money are certainly not no-allow cases.

Even the GLS cannot exist as an island in the banking system.

What Burkart would like best is for people not to invest their money with his bank but to use it to back initiatives with direct credits. As he puts it, the ultimate goal of his bank is to become superfluous.

Dietmar Hawranek

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 24 September 1982)

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PERSPECTIVE

Working out a future for the past that lies in a cellar: filed Nazi records

Yard after yard of filing cabinets full of Nazi records is stored in a cellar in Zehlendorf, a Berlin suburb in the American sector of the divided city.

The cellar used to be an SS phone-tapping centre, but for over 30 years it has housed the records of the tappers and the tapped.

They include two almost complete sets of records of Nazi party members, including handwritten membership application forms, so no-one can say he never knew he was a member.

The 10.7 million membership cards were found by the US Army at the end of the war in a paper mill near Munich, where the party planned to destroy them.

They include about 600,000 SS personnel files, accounting for roughly 60 per cent of SS membership, and 500,000 SA membership files.

Then there are 100,000 files of the *Volksgerichtshof*, the People's Court of Roland Freisler, the hanging judge, and the arbitration tribunal of the Nazi party.

There were 1.5 million files of party correspondence, 2.5 million file cards amassed by the immigration centre for *Auslandsdeutsche*, or ethnic Germans from beyond the borders of the Reich.

There are 500,000 files of the *Reichskulturkammer*, the Nazi organisation that ran the arts in the Third Reich, and



neat rows of documents relating to all manner of other Third Reich organisations.

They include files neatly lettered along the spine with names such as *Lebensborn*, National Socialist gold badge of honour, National Socialist senior members' league and *Reichswerke Hermann Göring*.

The document centre is run by the US State Department, and strict rules govern who is given access and what they are allowed to read.

Information or copies of records are supplied only to courts, government authorities in friendly countries and historians.

In the early post-war years the files were used mainly for trials of war criminals and denazification proceedings.

Nowadays they are used mainly to process applications by German nationals for compensation for property forfeited in the East.

Before long the files will in their entirety be of no more than historic interest.

For years negotiations have been held with a view to transferring custody of the records to German authorities, but in Berlin many things are more

complicated than elsewhere, so it all takes time.

In autumn 1979 Bonn Interior Minister Gerhart Baum said the document centre would be taken over by German authorities by 1981 at the latest.

The Foreign Office, the Interior Ministry, the Federal Archives and US authorities were agreed in principle that the files were to be handed over to the Berlin unit of the *Bundesverwaltungsamt*, a Bonn government administrative agency.

The points at issue were who was to be allowed to consult the files and in what connection. Who should be entitled to consult Nazi, SS and SA records and how were the rights of Nazi party members who were still alive to be protected?

Agreement has since been reached on these points. The agreement on the transfer of custody, including regulations governing use of the facility, is ready to be signed.

There is even an entry in the Bonn budget for the administrative costs of running the Nazi document centre. But the USA has yet to sign on the dotted line.

There are said to be technical and legal problems still outstanding. The technical problems probably amount to the fact that the Americans first want to microfilm the roughly 30 million files.

They have been working on this for years but have still only microfilmed about half the contents of the cellar.

No-one seems sure what the legal problems are. Someone or other in Washington is still not entirely happy about some turn of phrase or other in the regulations governing use of the facilities.

The going has been just as slow on the hand-over of the former *Kammergericht*, or superior court of justice, also in the US sector.

West Berlin Senate has been negotiating for the return of this building, which served as the headquarters of the Allied Control Council after the war.

480 empty rooms

West Berlin's *Kammergericht* is housed in cramped quarters in the former *Reichskriegsgericht*, or court martial, and a number of other buildings.

There were plans to build a new courthouse, but they were shelved as long as there were hopes the Allies might vacate the Control Council building.

The Control Council has not met since Marshal Shokotovskii declared a session adjourned on 20 March 1948, while the Allied Travel Office, which used to be housed in the same building, has moved.

The Allied air safety centre is the only department that still uses it. It operates in 20 rooms, leaving the other 480 empty.

In summer 1979 the Four Powers said they were prepared to move the air safety centre, which supervises air traffic over Berlin, and hand over the building to the German authorities.

The only outstanding problems, it was said, were minor details in respect

of the replacement building. They are a problem.

Buildings have been inspected, shortlisted and new buildings considered. Whatever suggestions were made the Allies always raised some objection or other.

The latest idea is that of building a new air safety centre in the Klein next door to the Control Council building, as it were.

This would seem to indicate that status issues are involved, and not prepared to risk suggesting that the best idea will finally make the grade. Soviet attitude is unpredictable.

It cannot be long before the Allied safety centre is the only Four-Power institution to have survived the post-war period.

Air traffic in the corridors from Berlin is still recorded on forms that are relayed to the Soviet authorities accept flights but express reservations about foreign flights because, they say, the corridors are not suited for them.

Soldiers of the Four Powers meet on better together in chess and tennis tournaments, but the paper is in any case mere routine.

There have been no incidents for decades. Radar in Tegel, Tempelhof, Schönefeld, the city's three airports makes the Allied facility virtually useless.

It could have been scrapped long ago, but the Four Powers are keen to keep this vestige of Allied rule going. The Spandau jail for war criminals is still in operation. It could house prisoners but its only inmate is Hess, who is now 88.

The Führer's former deputy has been in Spandau since July 1948 and has been on his own since September 1966.

His last fellow-inmates were Speer and Baldur von Schirach, who has outlived them both.

The jail has four governors on monthly rotation each of the Powers sends in an officer and 30 to guard a sick old man.

Spandau costs the German taxpayer an estimated DM2m a year.

The Western powers have still more than one occasion that they are prepared to give Hess a reprieve. They aren't going to do so unless the Soviet Union agrees.

Soviet ambassador Pyotr Abramov has stressed that Hess must stay in prison for ever because he has shown signs of regret.

The Western powers could in the release Hess regardless of the view when they happened to be in charge at Spandau, but they are unlikely to do so.

So for reasons of status 36,000 metres of building will be maintained while flying to Indonesia, having a keep one man in prison until his death.

Cynics say the man who has been kept there has long been a prisoner kept there to ensure that an Allied ally is kept going.

When Hess dies the Allied agreement on punishing major war criminals on Spandau jail comes into effect. It is handed back to the German authorities.

It could, in theory, be used to house German jailbirds of the more conventional kind. But it is no longer satisfactory as a prison.

Prison buildings grow outdated than court buildings, or so it seems.

Joachim Nauert
(Die Zeit, 17 September 1982)

MOTORING

Daimler-Benz stakes its claim in Asia



Daimler-Benz has consolidated its base in Indonesia by moving its assembly plant in Djakarta.

New works, at Wanaherang, will employ between 3,000 and 4,000 people and a few hundred cars a year, say 1,300. The company says it is only non-Japanese motor vehicle in the country.

It hopes that eventually, by more establishing itself in Indonesia, it will be in a good position to export to other Asian countries, including China.

The assembly plant until now was in a good position to export to other Asian countries, including China.

The new works cost roughly DM30m, and which DEG, a Bonn government development agency, and an Indonesian partner each contributed a

share. Mercedes have decided to enter the Indonesian market, as it were, in a country where the Japanese are virtually in control of the motor vehicles market.

Mercedes cars and trucks predominate on Indonesian roads, but Mercedes have no fear of Japanese competition in the car market. At their end market Daimler-Benz and BMW and has been on his own since September 1966.

Competition is fierce in commercial vehicles, and by being on the spot Daimler-Benz stand a better chance of being caught on the hop in Indonesian markets.

Mercedes salesmen in Indonesia are directly confronted with new Japanese trucks that are usually cheaper.

In Stuttgart the parent company has a strategy long before Japan's further headway and inroads in the markets, such as the Middle East.

Indonesia, says Herr Prinz, is an economic region with a future where a basis needs establishing for the company's products.

Indonesia is a country of 150 million people with a more million motor vehicles. In the Federal Republic of Germany, there are more than 20 times as many trucks and buses.

Gerhard Prinz, Werner Niefer and Liener felt it was well worth while flying to Indonesia, having a reception with President Suharto and holding a reception.

Keeping with the customs of the country they welcomed guests wearing headscarves and batik shirts.

They also felt it was worth while assembling Mercedes cars in Indonesia. Mercedes does not allow Mercedes to be imported and Daimler-Benz are keen to boost their cars in the market to boost the image of Daimler-Benz trucks.

Mercedes is at stake than the Indonesian market. The Asian countries Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore are felt to be the gateway to the Far East.

At present, Western companies cannot do much business with the Chinese, and the long term Peking economic

Joachim Nauert
(Die Zeit, 17 September 1982)

for suitable local suppliers in Indonesia.

Difficulties are bound to arise, and the Minister is well aware that local suppliers are going to have to pull out all the stops to meet Daimler-Benz quality requirements.

But this pressure is intended. It will, he hopes, help to ensure that industrial standards in Indonesia slowly improve.

Professor Soehardjo is keen on consistency. Growth rates have averaged five to six per cent in recent years, and that's how he wants them to stay.

Indonesia, an oil producer, has not aimed at two-figure growth rates, so now demand for oil is declining it faces fewer problems than other petroleum exporters.

He says there can be no question of Indonesia finding itself in the same position as, say, Mexico with gigantic projects in the pipeline and serious payments difficulties.

Daimler-Benz are likewise thinking in terms of slowly but surely increasing their presence in South-East Asia. Land has already been bought alongside the assembly works.

It is envisaged as the site of an engine production production facility.

The company is also investing in staff. A training centre has been set up in a suburb of Djakarta. In two years it will turn out 30 mechanics and 30 fitters.

The training centre is claimed to be the largest facility of its kind run by private enterprise in Indonesia. Daimler-Benz are certainly proud of what such efforts have enabled them to achieve.

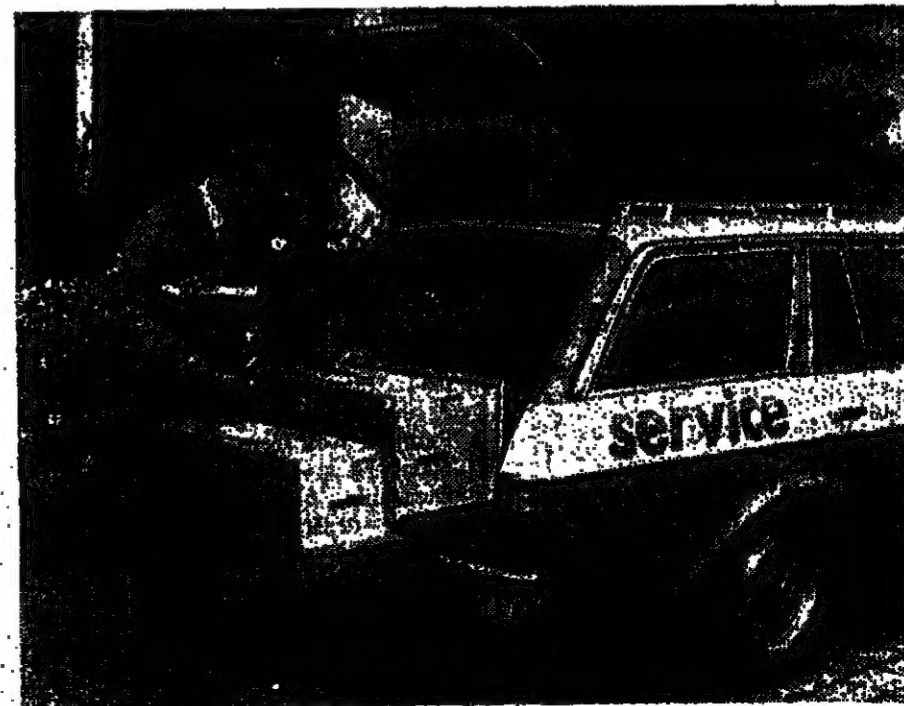
Daimler-Benz trucks, buses and cars assembled in Indonesia largely comply with German quality standards. That is the only way in which they can hope to compete with the much cheaper Japanese models.

The number of local components used in Indonesian Daimler-Benz models is still so low that they are not much less expensive to manufacture than in Germany. So quality has to count, and quality controls tend to further increase the price.

German quality will never be fully achieved, it is conceded. So assembly works in Indonesia and Thailand build their right-hand drive Mercedes cars strictly for the local market.

Traffic drives on the left in Singapore too, but cars are imported to Singapore, so Daimler-Benz prefers to ship German-made Mercedes to the city-state.

Richard Gaul
(Die Zeit, 24 September 1982)



A new Mercedes feature, a security container for tools and spare parts.
(Photo: Mercedes-Benz)

Better is on the way, but first it'll get worse

Motor manufacturers in the Federal Republic of Germany are expecting business to get worse before it gets better.

Manufacturers and suppliers will be working short time in the months ahead, although output should be up slightly and turnover up a little more over the year.

In the first eight months of 1982 the number of private cars manufactured in the country was 2.56 million, or 14 per cent more than from January to August 1981.

But the output of commercial vehicles was down six per cent to 199,100 units, largely due to a slump in production of transporters, or vans.

The momentum of export business has definitely declined over the past few weeks, whereas between January and August car exports were up 23 and commercial vehicle exports up four per cent in number.

Turnover totalled DM111bn in 1981, or 4.6 per cent more than in 1980.

Motor Manufacturers Association business manager Achim Diekmann told the annual general meeting in Baden-Baden that hopes lay in the future.

The domestic market for private cars had been in the doldrums for four years, he said, so the backlog of demand ought to come to a head sooner or later.

Domestic sales of commercial vehicles were likewise so low that a further decline was virtually impossible.

In its report for 1981/82 the association stressed the industry's contribution towards keeping the economy going by heavy investment and toward preventing any further deterioration in the job situation.

In 1981 the industry had made capital investments totalling DM8.2bn. It seemed sure to continue investing at a high level in the years ahead.

From 1982 to 1984 German motor manufacturers planned to invest nominally a third more in domestic production facilities than from 1979 to 1981.

They thus emphasised their constant endeavours to stay competitive and safeguard jobs. Their payroll had remained steady, numbering 788,577 at the end of June.

Against international competition they had more than held their own. In the home market car sales were down four per cent in 1981 and a further six per cent in the first half of 1982.

German manufacturers last year sold 2.6 per cent fewer cars at home. The share of the domestic market cornered by imported cars was down from 26.3 to 25.3 per cent last year.

In the first half of this year their share slumped further to 23.9 per cent, with Japanese imports at 8.9 per cent only a whisker ahead of the French, with 8.6 per cent.

German manufacturers have gained ground in most foreign markets over the past 18 months, whereas Japanese firms have lost ground nearly all over Europe.

Exchange-rate vagaries and an attractive product range enabled German motor manufacturers to increase their share of Common Market car sales from 33 to 35 per cent.

Werner Neitzel
(Die Welt, 25 September 1982)

PHOTOGRAPHY

New outlook on the cabbage leaf

Is it a stylised wave chiselled in stone? Is it a goddess's full head of hair, seen from the rear? Is it some gigantic shell?

No, it's just a close-up of a cabbage leaf photographed by Edward Weston, 1866-1958, an American, a photographer with an unerring inner eye for the unusual.

Weston is one of 18 fine photographers from seven countries whose work formed the nucleus of the Photography from 1922 to 1982 exhibition at this year's Photokina fair in Cologne.

It was one of three on show at the city's Kunsthalle, the others being the Dialogue of the Young Generation and the Newspaper Readers' Photographic Competition.

In an outstanding main catalogue Manfred Helting, who was responsible for the selection, describes the exhibition as an attempt to present, arranged by topic, the basic directions and style elements of photographic art that have evolved over the 60 years.

Three generations of photography are shown not just as a historic succession but also as a history of the evolution of photographic vision.

In six departments of this international longitudinal section three photographers each are featured, and they are shown at three levels of reality: the invented, the unusual and the construc-

tion of reality. Photos are also shown under the headings Signs and Moments in Time, Women in Light and the Handwriting of Nature. These headings prove fruitful and flexible enough, especially as they are not intended as a narrow framework or liable to be misunderstood as one. The cabbage leaf mentioned above testifies to the unusual reality continually discovered and conjured by photographers. They include two other Americans, Ansel Adams, 80, and Frederick Sommer, 77. All three bear the imprint of the West, where they lived.

Their work invariably has more to say than what they show. In Adams' case, a black and white Sand Hurdle, in Sommer's an Aluminium Foil that is felt to be plastic.

Otto Steinert, 1915-1978, of Germany is a good example of invented reality, especially in his early period, when he launched Subjective Photography and practised it to produce extremely interesting, artificially ambitious proof of his point, as for instance, in Strict Ballet, 1949.

A stimulating contrast to Steinert's black and white asceticism is provided by the opulent flower arrangements in colour on textile materials photographed by Jean Batho, 43, of France.

Third in this category comes Walter A. Peterhans, 1897-1960, a surprising and imaginative former Bauhaus man, with the surprising technical versatility of his "applied photography."

An entirely different reality is presented under the heading Construction of Reality, as in the monumental industrial buildings reminiscent of Renger-Patzsch photographed by Charles Sheeler, 1883-1965, of America.

André Thijssen, 34, of Holland, deals with the subject in a much more abstract manner in spatially experienced constellations of contrasting colour surfaces.

Luigi Ghirri, 39, of Italy, on the other hand, frequently includes the natural, organic environment, as in his house walls in Ferrara, completely overgrown with ivy.

This brings us to the Handwriting of Nature, to which Elliot Porter of America has devoted a long life beginning in 1901. He was in Cologne to receive the arts award of the German Photography Association, as was Reinhart Wolf from Hamburg. Jean Dieuzalde, 61, of France deals with minute details, individual leaves, twigs and turfs of tree roots and bird feathers. In the work of Sadayoshi Shiotani, 83, of Japan, Ansel Adams' 1942 photograph, 'The Tetons and Snake River' is combined with his work in Wyoming, USA.



Friedrich Seidenstücker's 1925 photograph, 'Plützenaprinzen', a woman jumping across a puddle in Berlin.

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classical Japanese view of imagery a Western approach to seeing, the exact opposite of what it is Ghirri.

Whereas Ghirri with his by walls shows us human reality grown by nature, Shiotani constructs incorporates people and their ties in his landscapes.

In his Fisherman's Net, for instance, we see the sea in a most unusual way through the fine mesh of the net.

The abundance of perspectives in photography embraces as soon as the view of the situation of children's surroundings and the riches of the accessories are not excluded in a manifest in Women in Light.

It ranges from the classical nude Paul Outerbridge Jr, 1896-1958, of America and the effectively clothed and clothed women of Frantisek Drtikol, 1883-1961, of Czechoslovakia to the erotic escapades of Helmut Newton born in Berlin in 1920.

Newton dares to unveil acutely perverted men's daydreams in photographs such as Woman in Front of Mirror, Riding Whip, or Villa d'Este, Coma.

Two Germans are featured under the heading Signs and Moments in Time. Friedrich Seidenstücker, 1882-1966, says the head of family program-Timm Rautert, 41.

Seidenstücker was a sharp-eyed near from Westphalia who always succeeded in capturing the "film moment" of an occurrence, as in a 1925 photo of a Berlin woman jumping across a puddle.

Rautert, a student of Steinert's, is extremely sensitive to colour and adept at documenting children's street games such as hopscotch, with unbelieveable life and movement.

Robert Frank, 58, who is known for his book about the average American, confirms as a critic of civilisation his reputation for being an exact observer both unobtrusive and revealing of everyday scenes.

In this partly historical, partly topical longitudinal section of 60 years of photography Helting succeeds in conveying L. Fritz Gruber's 1980 Imagin Museum, which itself was a success in 10 countries dealt almost all with play problems.

By the staircase of the Kunsthalle, lover of blow-up photos will see an aesthetic and technical sensation, From Buildings, by Reinhart Wolf.

He photographed New York skyscrapers using a king-sized camera that reveals the detail in absolutely exact focus. The photos are printed in one on paper 1.80 by 2.90 metres in size.

Wolf's work opens up new technical dimensions in giant photography.

Hannes Schmalz (Kleiner Nachrichten, 29 September 1982)

betrayal of children by their parents. We are told, in detail and with polemics, the tale of Camilla and both 7.

They suffer from the separation of parents, from the arrogant behaviour of the US occupation forces and the local authority welfare department.

In a fairly period their mutual ship gives them a feeling of balance and support.

The film explores children's experiences and mimicry. It does so fully that it makes a much more impression on the mind than more educational entries.

Wunderwaffe (German title: Wunder-Waffen) is set in Israel, not long after the war of liberation, dealing with streetfighting between two gangs of children.

From Michael Verhoeven's 'Die Weiße Rose': Hans and Sophie Scholl, played by Wulf Kästner and Lena Stolze.

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THE CINEMA

Project aims to get children's films on the commercial circuit

Fifteen new films were shown at this year's international festival of children's films in Frankfurt.

On the 13, one was tempted to say, view of the situation of children's surroundings and the riches of the accessories are not excluded in a manifest in Women in Light.

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The fighting is tough and inexorable, the boys having been taught by teachers and parents that courage, will to win and military discipline are the highest qualities.

There is no room for sentiment in this adult world. The gentle power of the family is a mere facade behind which Yoni's father thrashes his son with a leather belt.

The boy eventually seeks refuge by the sea with a woman who went mad in a German concentration camp. He felt he had to make a getaway after seriously injuring another boy.

She takes him seriously in her own way and doesn't promptly punish him. Ilan Moshenson, the director, has some very poetic and concentrated sequences that make the film worth seeing for adults too.

A most impressive Icelandic entry was a newcomer in Frankfurt, although Thorstein Jonsson's *Punkti, Punkti, Komma, Strich* (German title: Stop, Stopp, Comma, Dash) was seen last year at the Scandinavian film festival in Lübeck.

It is a comedy about six-year-old twins, Jon and Jan, who are so frank that they force their surroundings to nail colours to the mast.

The entire idea is most imaginative, and the episode in which we are told the tale of Selma, a mongoloid girl next door, is a most sensitive contribution to the subject of the handicapped.

It differs from the Spanish film *Malapata* (meaning Idiot), which tells the tale of a boy with a hare lip who is made fun of by everyone, in showing that children are not by nature cruel to the handicapped.

They are educated into being cruel toward them.

There were a number of disappointments alongside such pleasant discoveries at the Frankfurt festival. Entries from Czechoslovakia, the Hollywood of children's films, were boring.

The GDR entry, *Die dicke Tilla* (Fat Tilla), likewise sounded a note of routine and lack of imagination. It seemed more likely to strengthen prejudice against the fat than to foster understanding for outsiders.

An obvious shortcoming of most entries was their length. They all ran for an hour and a half or more, and after three quarters of an hour at most the juvenile audience began to grow restive.

The children paid little or no more attention to the dialogues and less and less attention to the photographic sequences.

Hark Bohm's *Ich kann auch 'ne Arche bauen* (I Can Build An Ark Too) and Horst Schwab's *Kohlen für die Naunystasse* (Coal for Naunystasse) told an entirely different tale.

They were screened as part of a retrospective entitled German Children's films from 1944 to 1973 and concentrated on visual aspects; Schwab's film was a silent film.

They were shorter and better suited to a juvenile audience than many newer and much more professionally produced films.

Yet the festival showed nonetheless that interesting children's films are still being made all over the world.

Film promotion measures ought to be aimed with urgency at ensuring they are shown in cinemas and not instalment by instalment on TV, especially as taking children to the matinee show would then be more interesting for adults too.

Children's films as screened in Frankfurt are family films. The much-vaunted dialogue with young people might arguably be prompted by a visit to the cinema.

Oliver Tolmein (Süddeutsche Zeitung, 23 September 1982)

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Actress Lena Stolze steps into shoes of Nazi victim

Forty years ago a small group of students got together in Munich to distribute leaflets calling for resistance to Hitler.

They included brother and sister Hans and Sophie Scholl and styled themselves the White Rose.

They were arrested within a matter of months, accused of high treason and sentenced to death. Hans and Sophie Scholl were executed on 23 February 1943.

The sentences passed on members of the White Rose group have, incidentally, to this day not been repealed.

Two German directors, working independently of each other, have made films on the subject. In both films Sophie Scholl is played by Lena Stolze.

She not only bears a striking resemblance to Sophie Scholl, but she plays her part so convincingly that many will feel she could well be Sophie Scholl in person, returned from the dead to act out the crucial scenes in her short life.

Michael Verhoeven's film, *Die Weiße Rose* (The White Rose), and Percy Adlon's *Fünf letzte Tage* (Five Last Days) deal with the subject so differently that they complement each other ideally.

Verhoeven gives us a straightforward tale of the five students who try, at a grim period in German history, to mobilise the last forces of good.

Motivated by idealism and profoundly felt Christian belief, they take arms against the advance of violence and oppression.

It is much to Verhoeven's credit that

A year ago in his Proust film *Céleste* Adlon proved himself a master of intimate screen drama. In his latest film the drama heightens slowly but surely.

He too doesn't portray the Nazis as monsters or make out Sophie and her friends to be supermen.

But as in Verhoeven's version, sparing means are deployed to paint a gripping picture of young people from whom today's youngsters could learn a thing or two.

Verhoeven and Adlon have both successfully brought home to a contemporary public a phenomenon that threatened to vanish into the oblivion of history textbooks.

One can but wish as many young people as possible, and older people too, of course, will see both films when they are screened at their local cinemas.

M. v. Schwarzkopf (Die Welt, 28 September 1982)



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MUSIC

Tickling the ivories in the drawing rooms of suburbia...no more

Whatever happened to the piano? It was the only musical instrument, apart from modern electronic obscenities, that ever did achieve bourgeois respectability.

As part of the accepted furniture in a middle-class home it was a focal point of bourgeois musical culture.

Nowadays it seems to have been downgraded to the level of a somewhat faded and scurrilous vestige of an era long gone.

Whoever would think these days of having an ordinary person in a film or TV crime serial episode sit down at home and play the piano for pleasure?

If a piano is featured, it is sure to be a grand piano, and its part as a film property is strictly limited to a handful of roles.

It may be screened for emotional effect, like a thunderstorm, or it will be included either to help someone seduce an unspoilt girl or to console a grass

cess is enough to see that many qualities of craftsmanship are indispensable and can be neither automated nor rationalised.

Many glued fine wood parts, for example, have to be matured and acclimatised for weeks before they can be put into position.

So up to nine months elapse from the time a manufacturer takes delivery of the first material to the date when he can supply the finished product.

Only leading manufacturers still make their own keys, and the white keys are only finished in ivory to special order. Normally the ivories are made of plastic, which has the advantage that they don't turn yellow.

The complicated mechanics is manufactured for the most part by a company in the Black Forest. It is an established trade witticism that if a fire ever guts the factory the entire industry will have to down tools, at least in Europe.

Pianomakers can be seen to have a special relationship with their product. Many are taught to play the piano by their company.

Not only the traditionally blind piano tuner and the king of craft workers, the factory tuner who puts the piano through its paces in a soundproof room, are artists.

Sensational new developments such as the invention of pedals by Steinway in 1819 are unlikely to occur in a hurry. The piano has evolved slowly over the centuries.

But the list of optional extras that are now available, ranging from gilt ornaments to candelabras, reminds one of motor manufacturers' catalogues.

Quality of performance, workmanship and the manufacturer's reputation have been joined by extraneous criteria in the minds of some potential customers.

Dealers have been asked if they could send a specialist round to advise would-be clients with wonderful period furniture. Could they possibly supply a matching piano?

Then there is the tale of the well-to-do Roman who ordered a grand piano specially designed to fit his caravan.

In one respect piano salesmen have an easier time of it these days, especially if they have to do the manhandling themselves.

6 Playing for visitors often a punishment for both players and the listeners

themselves.

Pianos used to weigh between six and eight hundredweight. Nowadays an upright may weigh 150kg, while even a concert grand at 350kg is easily handled by three to four removal men.

The main reason is that the cast iron frame has been reduced in size with no loss of sound or stability.

A fair number of pianos are moved around when people remove or instruments are bequeathed to new owners. They usually cost between DM300 and DM400 to shift.

But why bother? Who plays the piano? The Association of Music Schools, comprising 659 firms, says its members teach 89,274 people to play.

If one adds schools that are not in membership and bears private lessons in mind, an estimated 120,000 young people may be assumed to be learning to play the piano.

What does this figure mean? Well, fluctuation is higher than it used to be in the days when parents insisted on children keeping up with their piano lessons even when enthusiasm flagged.

There has been an unmistakable trend away from individual lessons at home or at the teacher's and toward instruction at specially equipped schools of music.

Modern educational methods now make it possible to teach beginners in twos and threes for the first two years. Teachers say this makes learners feel more like competing with each other.

A whistler under half the entrants to this year's national youth music contest came from music schools rather than private teachers.

No-one knows how many piano teachers there are. They include university dons, music school teachers (who are paid a little less than primary school teachers), private teachers and music students.

Their fees vary between DM15 and DM50 an hour, or DM60 to DM200 a month for a lesson a week. The little old lady teacher is the exception nowadays.

Besides, it would be wrong to poke fun at little old ladies. In their time, at the turn of the century, they were courageous fighters for women's rights.

Arguments still rage over technique, although there are no longer two strongly opposed schools of thought, as there were at the turn of the century.

In those days the professional journal, *Der Clavier-Lehrer*, published an endless series of readers' letters on whether the finger technique or the weight technique was better.

The constant exhortation of 'old to keep those knuckles up' is as indelibly marked in the minds of older students as the commands barked by the RSM on the parade ground.

Knuckles up is no longer regarded as the yardstick of learning to play properly. Nor is playing an entire Clementi sonata with a coin balanced on the back of one's hand.

Loosen up arms and hands is the rule, but otherwise students are left very much to choose for themselves the technique that suits them best.

Dogmatic theories would be unlikely to carry much conviction nowadays when any 10-year-old can see on TV how Vladimir Horowitz plays the piano with his hands almost flat and his fingertips almost bent upward yet without his brilliant technique being the loser.

But views still differ as to whether and to what extent the way the keys are hit affects the tone rather than the volume.

This issue was debated at length by the 1981 congress of the German section of the European Piano Teachers' Association.

Yet as long ago as in 1906 Max Planck, then a young physics professor, was called in to give an expert opinion. Did it make any difference? Probably not, he said.

On the whole the piano has declined in importance for music teachers. As a rule they must all be able to play, but

the days are over when the piano was regarded as of overwhelming importance.

In days gone by a Leipzig piano manufacturer advertised a patent designed no as the universal teaching aid. It was days progressive music teachers keen on do-it-yourself music and its merits.

Many teachers regard the piano as a vestige of bourgeois culture. But really so elitist, hostile to groups and to grade as it is sometimes made to be?

The facts tell a different tale. Planck told a scientific society at its general meeting in Mannheim, a lion and a half pianos in West German homes.

Fifty per cent are played seven per cent never. This is an average figure when seen alongside one in three of 1.2 million violins never played.

But both figures arguably overstate the case, there being fewer opportunities to play the piano than there used to be.

Girls were taught to play the piano generation or two ago so that they could demonstrate their prowess to their boyfriends.

Playing the piano for visitors was a punishment for both players and listeners and is now felt to be generally bad.

The wife who constantly puts her friends and relations with her husband and Hugo Wolf *Heder*, accompanied the piano by her husband, virtually came a figure of fun.

The writer knows a family who make up an outstanding musical ensemble that performed at every family party, but it came apart at the time when the children all left home.

6 The optional extras range from gilt ornaments to candelabra

went in for political extremism.

Yet playing the piano in public was a splendid opportunity of demonstrating prowess, testing oneself and being praised (even though some of the praise may have been hypocritical).

Nowadays parents seldom even have the trouble of listening to their children as they practise.

A further handicap both for youngsters and for adults was that they had to be able to play the difficult perfection of many young players from the Soviet Union, Hungary, France, America and, of late, Germany.

This perfection can be heard on record or tape whenever one feels inclined, which can be both an advantage and a discouragement.

Music schools offer an alternative to the electronic bedlam of a room one's own. Duos and quartets can together that are virtually ruled out of private homes because families are longer large enough.

Older people ought to be encouraged to play more too, even if it is only in the Moonlight Sonata. The courts ruled that the piano may be played in apartments with this condition, and that neighbours have no cause for complaint.

Those who really are no longer in position to play ought at least to practise the piano they cannot use. Put it for sale. Good second-hand pianos are scarce and in demand.

Joachim Neander
(Die Welt, 18 September 1982)

RESEARCH

Disappointment over genetic engineering

Genetic engineering has not lived up to expectations, a Munich biologists' society said at a scientific meeting in Mannheim.

It had yet to sell over the pharmaceutical counter and drug manufacturers had not made the bumper profits hoped for.

Instead, problems had arisen that were expected two or three years ago and drawbacks of genetic engineering had subsided somewhat.

At the time had come for an interim assessment of the situation, said Professor Hofschneider of the Max Planck Society Institute in Martinsried, Munich.

Addressing the 112th general assembly of the Association of German Scientists and Doctors in Berlin.

Professor Hofschneider, a biochemist and geneticist he was surprised that genetic engineering had not advanced by the leaps and bounds of its early promise.

There was many a slip between initial success and large-scale industrial feasibility, and more could happen than mere technical hitches.

There could be no doubt that it was responsible to feed extraneous genetic material to bacteria and make the organisms produce substances not needed for their own metabolism.

It seemed relatively straightforward compared with the biochemical manipulation of the substances produced by genetic engineering.

New products had to pass pharmacological and clinical tests before they were approved by the Federal Health Office in Berlin.

Human insulin from the bacteria cannot be marketed without further approval as pharmaceutical legislation demands.

Scientists agreed that in principle substances could be produced by bacteria. They included interferons, hormones, human insulin and other substances which will be available before the end of the 1990s and may be manufactured by means of genetic engineering.

"The result will be drugs and medicines that work in ways of which we are at present unaware, especially, perhaps, in connection with the immune system."

But the future of genetic engineering in medicine was surely not restricted solely to the manufacture of new drugs, Professor Hofschneider stressed that a start had been made in reproducing genes for use in improving ante-natal diagnosis.

It might well one day be possible to influence by genetic engineering diseases that were congenital or inherited.

He was thinking in terms of intervention in the somatic cell. If certain enzymes were missing this particular genetic defect could be remedied.

Only the individual 'patient' could thus be cured. He would continue to bequeath it to his descendants.

Professor Hofschneider ruled out any possibility of ever identifying or influencing complex intellectual properties or character traits by means of such processes.

But these new diagnostic and therapeutic options nonetheless raised many questions.

He observed to ensure that dangers were not allowed to ensue. One of these

Continued on page 15

The risks genetic engineering entailed had originally been grossly overestimated, but a level-headed assessment of the danger must now give way to the diametrically opposite approach.

There must be no question of easing all restrictions to allow anyone to tinker around with bacteria.

Experience had also shown genetic research scientists that not every idea in genetic engineering achieved the desired results.

A method that was successful when used with one gene was by no means universally applicable. So mass production by bacteria could never produce goods off the peg, only made to measure.

Putting successful experiments in genetic engineering into industrial practice called for staying power and the financial backing that was needed to last the distance.

"It remains to be seen which method is better," he said, "the American approach of taking a deep breath, and the plunge, or the European preference for cautiously making the fire and tending the embers."

There could and should be no doubt that putting genetic research to industrial use was a task that must be performed by industry alone.

"Laboratories at universities and other research facilities can merely put together initial findings as part of their basic research orientation," he said. They could at best come up with the ideas.

This was not to say that the two sectors should work alongside each other and pay little or no attention to the other. Greater national transparency would be definitely both desirable and useful.

Professor Hofschneider ended with a look at the future. What could genetic engineering hope to accomplish in future, or were all its options already apparent?

"It is true that the last accessible pastures will soon be grazed, but it must also be realised that new and unpredictable opportunities will arise."

Further progress might be expected to result from the decoding of minute body proteins and from the automatic manufacture of genetic information.

Besides, "agents we as yet hardly know will be researched in the course of the 1990s and may be manufactured by means of genetic engineering."

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Continued on page 15

Germany tries to keep up with the Midas touch

Micro-electronics, energy research and genetic engineering are widely considered to be the three main industrial growth sectors.

Ever since DNA, short for deoxyribonucleic acid, was identified as the basic substance of life a few years ago molecular biology has boomed as a research discipline.

So has genetic engineering, which opens up unsuspected opportunities in pharmaceuticals and chemicals.

German industry, which has been accused of missing the boat, is keen to keep up with developments. BASF is investing in genetic research at Heidelberg University.

Experts are convinced genetic engineering can be used to open up new opportunities in medicine, chemicals and agriculture.

It can be used, for instance, to manufacture drugs that are not yet available, drugs ranging from an effective cure for the common cold to means of welding what will probably be a much more specific influence on human behaviour than known psycho-pharmacological drugs.

Environmental protection could be activated by manufacturing bacteria that feed on pollution. Hereditary diseases could be cured by genetic manipulation.

In animal husbandry yields could be increased handsomely by developing, say, an effective vaccine to cure foot-and-mouth disease.

The same would be true of agriculture if genetic engineering were to succeed in enabling breeders to turn out new, super-resistant varieties of crop plants.

It is hardly surprising that many scientists say DNA is like the Midas touch.

Anyone who comes into contact with it goes mad, says Maurice Wilkins. He is a British biophysicist who won the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1962.

Anglo-American economics journals have hailed genetic engineering as one of the greatest industrial opportunities of the 20th century.

American market research pundits say turnover will be over \$7bn by 1990, while forecasts for the turn of the century are astronomical.

Many new companies have been launched to develop the new industry in the United States, which leads the world in genetic engineering, with Japan hard on its heels.

German industry and research scientists were fairly late to jump on the bandwagon, being sharply criticised for being slow on the uptake by *Umschau in Wissenschaft und Technik*, a magazine specialising in science and technology.

"Industry was reluctant," the magazine complained, "to participate in genetic engineering works under construction in the United States and Europe, facilities where top-flight research scientists convert their findings into commercial projects."

"Instead, companies pottered around in their own research laboratories trying to develop bacteria with new hereditary characteristics. They gradually fell be-

hind, like do-it-yourselfers who try to go professional."

Even specialised research centres, the magazine said, had peacefully snoozed through the boom in genetic engineering.

Those days look like being over. Hoechst, the Frankfurt-based chemicals company, have decided to buy their way into US research.

They have given the Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard's university hospital, DM50m to invest in further genetic engineering research with the emphasis on medical uses.

The MQH has a high reputation in this research sector, which is why Hoechst, who are major pharmaceutical manufacturers, have been so keen to invest overseas.

BASF of Ludwigshafen have decided that charity begins at home. Over five years BASF, the second of Germany's three major chemicals manufacturers (the third is Bayer), are to invest DM5m in nearby Heidelberg.

They will be sharing with Heidelberg University the research findings of a new genetic engineering department.

BASF managing director Matthias Seefelder looks on this investment as a mere trigger. It is not, he says, just a BASF activity.

Other companies or the public sector are at liberty to participate in the project. BASF would not be insisting on research staff carrying out specific projects.

But two BASF research scientists will constantly be attached to the Heidelberg facility, so the company are confident of benefiting from microbiological research there.

Greater emphasis is to be placed on genetic engineering and its industrial uses at the company's own laboratories in Ludwigshafen, which is only a stone's throw away.

But BASF are reluctant to let the cat out of the bag and say what use they intend to make of genetic engineering. They are clearly keen to harness the mighty microbe to make a more elegant job of some of the work carried out in chemicals manufacture.

This would presumably mean the company could manufacture a number of products less expensively than its competitors, and possibly market entirely new products, such as specific fine chemicals or agents.

While BASF seem to be playing down the entire sector, there is some truth in allegations that reports from the United States are exaggerated and wishful thinking to raise investment capital.

A clear distinction must likewise be drawn between genetic engineering in research laboratories and in industrial production.

By no means everything that succeeds in the test-tube is bound to be a large-scale industrial success. The market could favour other developments.

A few years ago, for instance, artificial protein was felt to have a fine future as a means of bridging the protein gap. The humble soy bean has since proved much less expensive.

There are doubts about interferon, the drug that is claimed to achieve miraculous results in curing cancer. No-one can yet say for sure how it works and how it is manufactured.

A drug developed by genetic engineering

Continued on page 14

MODERN LIVING

Noise: there's a never-ending supply of it, and it keeps getting louder

Noise levels, especially traffic noise, have continued to increase, says the Federal Environment Office in West Berlin.

The increasing number of vehicles on the roads is not the only reason why, according to a survey by the Bonn government agency.

Within 30 years the number of motor vehicles registered has increased from about two million to roughly 27 million, so it is clearly a contributory factor.

Another is that many noise abatement options are not taken up by motor vehicle manufacturers because they are too expensive.

Psychologists at the Free University in West Berlin have looked into traffic noise and discovered that it is not primarily the noise that makes people ill.

It is the annoyance they feel about the noise, which cannot, unlike atmospheric and water pollution, simply be ignored.

But unlike the other two it very seldom causes definite bodily harm of ill-



ness. Which makes it none the less a nuisance.

On top of the many other irritations of life it can make life unbearable for some city-dwellers, and low noise levels can be particularly insidious in effect.

Very loud noise can hurt, turn people deaf and heighten the risk of high blood pressure. Low noise is subtler in effect.

"Noise does not automatically have an effect," says Wolfgang Schönplüg, "and its effect doesn't necessarily increase in keeping with the noise level."

The crucial factor, he explains, is the subjective response to noise and its emotional assessment.

With financial backing from the Environment Office, Professor Schönplüg and his fellow-psychologists are looking into the repercussions of traffic noise on work, leisure and relaxation.

Noise, they say, has a nuisance value that must be born in mind, but it depends largely on the people involved, on their abilities and objectives.

Field workers went round works, offices and homes where traffic noise was loud asking people, using questionnaires and interviews, who was upset by the noise and why.

There were complaints about the burden of traffic noise at the end of the working day when people are already feeling tired and jaded.

People complained about sports cars that could be driven less noisily, unlike commercial vehicles, if their drivers only wanted.

"The serious drawback of these field

studies," says Professor Schönplüg, "is that we cannot change noise levels and are not allowed to measure physical reactions to it."

So psychological noise research is centred on laboratory experiments in which human guinea pigs are subjected to traffic noise via loudspeakers or headphones for hours at a time.

At times it is just a noise accompaniment, at others it is overwhelming in volume. At times they are subjected to it while at work, at times while relaxing after work.

Fairly low noise levels can be extremely annoying, the professor says. So can sudden traffic roars.

The ring of a cycle bell, the roar of a truck or the two-tone horn of an ambulance in normal traffic inevitably attract attention.

This attention paid to the individual noise event often triggers the first response.

The emotional assessment of an ambulance horn can vary from briefly registering that the ambulance is out again to fears that one might be personally involved.

Those who feel the noise strikes a personal chord will, tensely await the next ambulance noise after registering their first.

In one experiment psychologists sought to find out how traffic noise, or quiet affected the learning processes of their volunteers.

The human guinea pigs were asked to solve 10 tasks on a monitor screen that corresponded to office jobs such as checking a bill with, say, a price list.

All tasks were similar in outline and ought, after initial attempts, to have been solved with increasing ease and speed.

The findings showed that noise hampers the learning process as a whole. But learning new techniques is hampered increasingly the less bright the test persons are.

The volunteers were given brief intelligence tests before the experiment, to classify them in this respect.

Another experiment indicated noise is occasionally blamed for fatigue. "It always intervenes where one points already exist," says Professor Schönplüg.

During leisure activities it tends to be the other way round. A slight loss of activity diverts attention from noise.

It is when no activity whatever is undertaken that noise tends to be most annoying.

One group were asked to look at picture books, another to lie outdoors and at their ease in deckchairs.

As the noise level was gradually increased they were then asked how much less widespread than it they felt or how tiresome the noise was.

Their heartbeat, pulse and respiration rate were measured too. Noise is just as important as

In their assessments of how they felt during and after noise exposure, people who had not been taught relaxation techniques said they felt tense, annoyed to noise, annoyed and irritated.

As a rule these feelings gained intensity as the noise increased. People who tended to be nervous were upset by the noise than others.

Professor Schönplüg says his findings indicate that different people react differently to noise exposure.

But that, he feels, is no reason people should not try to do something about noise, such as calling for the about buildings or reaching out to the neighbours.

They might also try to persuade authorities to keep traffic to a minimum or submit applications for damages.

Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 25 September 1982

The individual worlds of small children

Parents often imitate a baby's behaviour to gain its attention and control understanding. This parental initiative can often trigger a chain reaction of imitation.

Older children at times imitate younger children as a means of wielding power in much the same way.

Children told by test supervisors to keep an eye on younger children more often imitated their younger than others of their age who were not given this instruction.

Disputes with their elders and the contradictions they entail are probably very important for the mental development of children.

Experiences that run counter to their own stage of development probably benefit the process of mental development toward intellectual maturity.

But such new impressions that are at odds with what the children themselves see and feel must not be too far removed from their own mental outlook.

There clearly is a specific optimum

development gap that is best. Most are most readily imitated when they are just one stage further up in the development.

When children get together their abilities are too far apart for the younger to be completely lured over by the older instead of playing an active role of their own in the relationship.

Linguistically too, children adjust their playmates. Four-year-olds, for instance, talk more simply when they have to make themselves understood to two-year-olds.

What they do is reduce the length of their comments, in much the same way as adults try to modify speech in conversing with foreigners whose command of German is limited.

In conversing with children of their own age or with adults, on the other hand, children pull out all the stops, their vocabulary and command of language.

Both five- and seven-year-olds use their sentences in grammar and content to make themselves understood by year-olds.

But seven-year-olds do so by way of anticipation, whereas five-year-olds only adjust by way of response, in words when the two-year-olds have to understand them.

Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 25 September 1982

SOCIETY

Anatomy of a modern fräulein: confident, educated and ready for anything

There is no stopping girls these days. They want it all and they want it now. A survey of 15- to 19-year-old girls by Brigitte, a women's magazine.

They naturally want to be beautiful. They want new hair styles, clothes they look when they use make-up at times they are unsure whether they are pretty or not.

Teenage girls today sit more reigned less plagued by self-doubt in the mirror than their mothers.

When older girls sleep with their boy-friends it is because both want to do so, because they like each other and not at the outset of a friendship.

Country girls are the exception. They get down to business sooner. In many respects they are more determined, self-confident and cheerfully active than city girls.

More than 60 per cent feel it is important to gain sexual experience. But by 18 or 19 most have a steady boyfriend; he may well be their later husband.

Only girls with a higher school education are less willing to commit themselves. They hold their options open in all walks of life and are more ready to consider a change.

Sixty-four per cent of girls questioned said a career mattered most, and this priority was uniformly spread throughout all social groups.

They did not have wildly unrealistic expectations; they merely saw a career as a means of getting established on their own.

A minority hoped that work would enable them to develop their capabilities, but less than one girl in three wants to go in for a career.

They have a shrewd suspicion of what lies in store. More than half are worried they will get no job satisfaction. Three out of four feel there is discrimination against women at work. Thirty-one per cent are afraid they may be unable to find a job of any kind.

Many find the idea of foreign travel in the sense of staying abroad for any length of time rather than just going on holiday strange. They are equally reluctant to consider forgoing children for the sake of a career.

Daughters of single mothers disagree. They set much greater store by a job than by a family. But although they generally appear self-assured they seem unsure of themselves and are decidedly old-fashioned in their dealings with boys.

Most naturally plan to ensure that they live different lives than at home, where mothers sacrifice themselves and fathers just do the odd job around the house.

Marriage they see as a partnership, but emancipation has its limits when the chips are down. About one girl in two feels unemployment is worse for a man than for a woman.

This fits their somewhat vague expectations of life. Most would like to combine work and a family but have no intention of neglecting their children.

They plan to work part-time and confidently expect to do what only civil servants can be sure of: staying at home for as long as the children need them, then going back to their old job.

So it is only realistic to look on the man as the breadwinner and to see

Women over 55 are the target of an experiment in social work in Tübingen backed since October 1980 by the Bonn Family Affairs Ministry.

The aim is to help women to help themselves and each other at what is for most a crucial time of life, a time when they no longer feel needed, by the family or at work, and are at a loss what to do.

The Tübingen project, run by three women, a psychologist and two educationalists, aims to cater for women nearing 60 who face retirement or have lost their partner and feel particularly crisis-stricken.

The facilities offered vary, being designed to meet requirements. One group that meets regularly once a month consists of women who spend their time looking after a sick member of the family.

They meet to discuss problems and to consider what they can still make of their own lives. They have always felt they were duty-bound to serve the family, but it is a particularly heavy burden looking after the sick, the aged and the infirm.

A stand-in now and then would be marvellous, but who would help? Is there any way of finding temporary care and accommodation so I can go on holiday once in a while?

How do other women cope with the problems? Isn't it nearly too much for

ed in dealing with the other sex. They get their own way. Fifteen-year-olds want to talk with boy-friends about everything, to kiss and cuddle.

But they don't want to have sex with them. They don't feel ready and aren't going to let themselves be pushed into it.

Only five per cent of 15-year-old girls have had sexual intercourse. That is more than twice as many as admitted to having had sex in a similar survey 10 years ago.

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what lies in store. More than half are worried they will get no job satisfaction. Three out of four feel there is discrimination against women at work. Thirty-one per cent are afraid they may be unable to find a job of any kind.

But girls still want everything, a job and a family, a husband and two children. It must all be reconcilable some time and somehow or other.

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themselves as staying at home to look after the children if need be.

A surprising aspect of the survey's findings is that the next generation of wives and mothers are decidedly moderate in their views. They may want to see changes but their views are traditional in many respects.

Thirteen per cent are active in the peace movement and over half are seriously interested in politics. Many girls feel attracted by the Greens, or environmentalists.

Women's libbers and squatters can expect sympathy rather than active support. Extremism is rejected at both ends of the political spectrum, as are punks.

The 'no future' slogan does not seem to fit this generation at all. Fifty per cent of 15- to 19-year-old girls look forward to the future.

Ulla Plog

(Die Zeit, 24 September 1982)

80-hour work week for the housewife

Housewives work over 80 hours a week, says Dr Irmlind Kettchau, a Dortmund expert on household affairs, in a report on four-member families for *Hörzu*, the weekly radio and TV magazine.

More than 11.5 million housewives and mothers in the Federal Republic of Germany do more than a man's work in looking after the home and family and often going out to work too, she says.

Housewives were found by the survey to spend 24 hours a week cleaning around the home. They spend on average a further 17 hours looking after the children and 16 hours in the kitchen.

Six-and-a-half hours are spent washing, 5.4 hours shopping, 4.6 hours ironing. At the kitchen sink, statisticians claim, the German *Hausfrau* washes up on average 18,000 knives, forks and spoons, 13,000 plates and 6,000 cups and glasses a year.

Welt am Sonntag, 19 September 1982

A helping hand at a crucial time of life

them at times? Are there possibilities of financial assistance?

These are some of the questions dealt with at the monthly meetings of this particular self-help group.

Another group is the Friday evening group for over-55s. It is designed as an open-ended facility for women in the age group.

They meet to play games, to go to the cinema, to discuss issues of general and personal interest and to make contacts that may develop into friendships.

Many women nowadays live in virtual isolation. They arrange their week so they can go shopping for something or other every day as something to look forward to.

The group also includes women who retire and suddenly find themselves confronted by an unexpected vacuum after a busy working life.

Old people are usually offered passive consumption as entertainment, says Ellen Wolf of the Bonn Family Affairs Ministry. The aim of the Tübingen pro-

ject is to prompt inactive women to develop ideas and creative activity of their own.

This aim has been achieved in part. Some women now meet regularly during the week without supervision to do their own thing.

A third group deals with problems of the menopause. After consultation with medical specialists it transpired that even women over 60 still felt this physical change of life was extremely problematic.

The group is aimed at enabling women who are in the middle of the menopause to compare notes and to help others who are over the peak of the problem to work it out.

The project hopes to find out how to approach women in situations that they may feel are unsatisfactory and to enable them to play a more active part in life.

To do so it has established links not only with older women but also with institutions such as the trade unions, employers and the Church.

The aim is to bring about a change in the general assessment and social status of older women. The project still enjoys financial and scientific backing, but once it is ended as a pilot project and scientific experiment it will carry on under its own steam.

(Mannheimer Morgen, 4 September 1982)

Midas touch

Continued from page 13

neering to cure the common cold would undoubtedly be a pharmaceutical money-spinner. But it may be a long time coming.

Even so, moves by Hoechst and BASF indicate that German manufacturers are keen to reduce the estimated four-year lead established by the United States.

The gap, says a BASF spokesman, may be due to the fact that young US scientists with bright ideas are much more flexible than their German counterparts.

They look into new ideas, switch to new companies, set up working parties and are quick to launch new firms, whereas in Germany the process is more cumbersome.

He is also critical of German universities where, he says, inter-disciplinary research is more difficult.

This is a view shared by Eckehard Bantz, who has worked at the cradle of genetic engineering in the United States and returned to Germany to run the new research facility in Heidelberg.

He is determined to emphasise all that is best in inter-disciplinary research. But he too is unable to say which what is likely to be researched or manufactured.

Genetic engineering is still in its early days and full of surprises, but on one point he is definite: "Even if only one research project in 100 comes up tops it could prove a real money-spinner."

Most of the genetic engineering companies newly established in the United States will not, he feels, succeed in making a major discovery and quietly fold.

But one or the other seems sure to be a success, and this is a point German industry at long last seems to have taken.

In addition to individual projects by Hoechst and BASF the entire chemical industry now plans to go in for genetic engineering on a large scale.

Bolke Behrens

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 25 September 1982)